AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A motor vehicle sheet-steel wheel rim having an axis of rotation and including axially, from the inner side to the outer side, an inner hook, an inner seat, a connecting zone, a mounting groove, a hump, an outer seat and an outer hook, said rim being intended to be joined to a wheel disc under the mounting groove, wherein, with said rim having a given thickness E in mm at said mounting groove, the connecting zone includes a zone of thickness E1 in mm such that:

$$E/3 + -0.5 \text{ mm} \geq E1 \geq E/3 \text{ mm; and}$$

$$E1 \geq 0.7 \text{ mm}$$

wherein all portions of the zone of thickness E1 lying in an imaginary plane extending through the zone of thickness E1 perpendicularly to an axis of rotation of the rim are spaced equidistantly from the axis of rotation.

2. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 1, in which the whole of the connection zone has said thickness E1.

3. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 1, in which the outer hump includes a zone of thickness E1 in mm which satisfies the following relationships:

$$E \geq E - 0.6 \text{ mm; and}$$

$$E2 \geq 1.4 \text{ mm.}$$

4. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 3, in which the zone of thickness E1 extends substantially over the whole of the outer hump.

5. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 1, in which the inner seat includes a zone of thickness E3 in m which satisfies the following relationships:

$E \geq E/3 + 0.45$ mm; and

$E3 \geq 1.2$ mm.

6. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 5, in which:

$E \geq E/3 + 0.9$ mm.

7. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 5, in which the whole of the inner seat has said thickness E3.

8. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 7, in which, with the rim including an axially inner hum[p, the zone of thickness E3 comprises the whole of said axially inner hump.

9. (Currently Amended) A wheel rim according to **[[a]]** claim 5, in which the inner hook includes a zone of thickness E4 in mm which satisfies the following relationship:

$E4 \geq E/3 + 0.75$ mm

10. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 9, in which:

$E4 \leq E.3 + 1.2$ mm

11. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 8, in which the zone of the hook of thickness E4 includes a zone of the hook with an orientation perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the wheel.

12. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 5, in which the outer seat includes a zone of thickness E5 in mm such that:

$E5 \geq E/3 \_+ 0.5$ mm

13. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 12, in which the thickness E5 is such that:

$E5 \leq E/3 + 0.9$ mm

14. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 12, in which the zone of the outer seat of thickness E5 extends substantially over the whole of the outer seat.

15. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 14, in which the zone of thickness E5 extends as far as the zone of the outer hook with an orientation perpendicular to the axis of rotation of the wheel.

16. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 1, in which the thickness E at the mounting groove is between 1.9 and 2.75 mm.

17. (Original) A wheel rim according to claim 1, in which the variations in thickness are obtained by flow-turning operations.